

#Protect**PA**Kids **NEWSLETTER**

SEPT 2025 · LEARN MORE AT PAFSA.ORG





The annual PA Child Abuse Prevention **Symposium** is a statewide gathering of professionals, advocates, and leaders working at the front lines of family support and child protection. This high-impact virtual event brings together expert voices, timely insights, and practical strategies to help strengthen families and keep children safe across Pennsylvania. Whether you work in child welfare, education, healthcare, the legal system, or community services, this symposium is designed for you.

Registration is OPEN for the 2025 PA Child Abuse **Prevention Symposium!**

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Live expert presentations on today's most pressing issues, from digital exploitation and family caregiving to perinatal substance use and protective factor frameworks.
- Actionable strategies to support families in real time, informed by emerging research and frontline experience.
- Engaging networking opportunities with peers and presenters from across the country, all from the convenience of your home or office.

EVENT DETAILS

- ► Attend virtually via Zoom. Enjoy full access from anywhere!
- ► Access every session live. No need to choose between tracks.
- ► Earn professional credits. CEUs, CLEs, and ACT 48 hours are available to all live attendees.

CAN'T MAKE IT LIVE?

Recordings, and a recording-only registration, are available too. However, please note that CEUs, CLEs, and ACT 48 credits are only awarded for live participation. Whether you're looking to stay ahead of emerging trends or expand your skillset, this symposium offers the insight, inspiration, and community you need.

SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

10:00 a.m. Welcome & Opening Remarks: Framing the Day

Justin Donofrio, PFSA

10:10 a.m. Exposing the Crime Scene: Big Porn's Exploitation of

Children and Victims

Laila Mickelwait, Justice Defense Fund

11:10 a.m. BREAK

11:20 a.m. Building on Strengths: Using the Strengthening Families

Protective Factors Framework to Guide our WorkRijelle Kraft, Center for Schools and Communities

12:35 p.m. LUNCH BREAK

1:00 p.m. Enhancing Cross Sector Collaboration and Policy Capacity

to Address Perinatal Substance Use Disorder

Ollie Kuo, Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs & Jess Simon, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health

2:15 p.m. BREAK

2:25 p.m. The Value of Grandfamilies: Beyond What We Know

Emma Swift Lee, Fred Rogers Institute

3:25 p.m. Closing Remarks and Reminders

Visit our **PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium webpage** to learn more about event sessions and speakers. Check out **our blog** featuring a conversation with PFSA President and CEO Angela Liddle about the importance of shared learning, collective impact, and central themes guiding the 2025 PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium.

SPEAKERS



Rijelle Kraft Center for Schools and Communities



Ollie Kuo
Association of Maternal
& Child Health
Programs (AMCHP)



Emma Swift Lee Fred Rogers Institute



Laila Mickelwait Justice Defense Fund



Jess Simon
UNC Gillings School of
Global Public Health



In recognition of National Child Abuse
Prevention Month in April, PFSA will
honor several individuals from across the
Commonwealth with a **PA Blue Ribbon Champions for Safe Kids** award. This award
is bestowed upon recipients for exceptional
contributions to the prevention of child abuse
and neglect. We want to recognize those
professionals, volunteers, and everyday heroes
among us who keep our children safe.

PA Blue Ribbon Champions for Safe Kids award winners are shining examples of people working in Pennsylvania to prevent child abuse and neglect. These awards are an opportunity to honor champions for children across the state who work tirelessly, often without fanfare or recognition, to improve the lives of our most vulnerable residents.

PFSA welcomes nominations for this honor from schools, government agencies, community organizations, private practitioners, churches, and other concerned individuals and groups. We look forward to recognizing each individual in April as a Blue Ribbon Champion for Safe Kids.

The nomination deadline is November 7, 2025, by 5 p.m. Fill out this form to submit a nomination today!



CBCAP Network Member: FIRST Center

PFSA welcomes **FIRST Center** as a new member of the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Network. PFSA is proud to partner and collaborate with diverse, dedicated, and committed organizations that advance the important work of preventing child abuse and neglect. Thank you for your commitment and dedication!

To find out more about **CBCAP Network** benefits or to learn about becoming a CBCAP Network member, visit **our website**.



Visit Our Blog

Our blog is the best way to get timely information on ways to help stop child abuse, recent staff developments, and prevention strategies.

pafsa.org/blog

Visit Our Store

PFSA has educational resources available in our online store. You can find informative materials covering a wide range of topics designed to assist caregivers, parents, and professionals in an effort to protect children.

pafsa.org/store



We've Moved!

Our office has moved to a new location! Please update your records to reflect our new address to ensure there are no disruptions in communications or correspondence.

100 Sterling Parkway, Suite 100 Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

UPCOMING PFSA TRAININGS

Families in Recovery (FiR) New Facilitator Training

This research-based program is a great resource for parents, guardians, and caretakers recovering from substance use disorder. The program aims to teach healthy coping and parenting skills while balancing the needs of recovery.

New FiR facilitators will be fully prepared to implement the program and provide training after attending a two-day session that covers content, education, and implementation of the curriculum. FiR facilitators come together during training to share program implementation experience, ideas, and insights.

All organizations interested in implementing FiR are required to enter into a contract with PFSA and participate in the evaluation requirements of the program. Contracts include ongoing technical assistance, program development, facilitator calls, and assistance with data collection.

Dates: October 21 & 22, 2025 (virtual)

Time: 9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m. (half-hour lunch break)

Cost: Contact PFSA's Director of Prevention Programs, Justin Donofrio (**jdonofrio@pafsa.org**), for paperwork or to ask questions.

Mandated Reporter **Training**

PFSA has several options for mandated reporter training for staff and volunteers. We provide certificates to participants and, upon request, will upload confirmation of the training to the Departments of State or Education for CE fulfillments under Act 31 and/or Act 48. CLEs are also available for attorneys.

LIVE IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL

Cost: Free

Register here for a virtual session.

INDIVIDUAL ONLINE, ON-DEMAND

Cost: \$30

Sign up here to take any time.

TRAIN-THE-TRAINER

This is an opportunity for organizations to develop their own quality, cost-efficient, in-house training program for employees on child abuse recognition and reporting.

Dates: October 16 & 17, 2025 (*virtual*)

Time: 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. (half-hour lunch break)

Cost: \$1,000 per trainer entering into a three-year contract with PFSA. Email Haven Evans, Director of Programs (hevans@pafsa.org), for paperwork or to ask questions.

Get involved and follow us on social!









#ProtectPAKids

Help us support families and communities across Pennsylvania by donating to PFSA today. Your gift will help PFSA continue to deliver successful training, education, and ongoing support to Pennsylvania families and children.

Visit pafsa.org to learn more and donate!

